

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
2 June 2005 (02.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/049110 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:

**A61M**

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/038093

(81) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date:

15 November 2004 (15.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/520,071 15 November 2003 (15.11.2003) US

(84) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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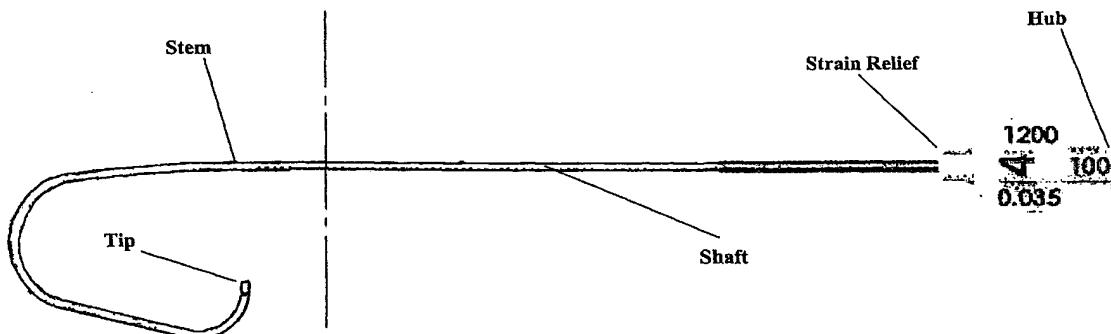
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Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CATHETER FOR DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING AND THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES



**WO 2005/049110 A2**

(57) **Abstract:** A catheter for use in introducing fluid into a vessel or other bodily structure. The catheter comprises a stem and a restrictor. The stem has approximate a distal end thereof a porous section that defines microholes distributed thereabout, which are inclined by a predetermined angle in the proximal direction. Affixed to the stem, the restrictor includes a conic ally-shaped valve with an apex thereof defining an opening and pointing in the proximal direction. The opening generally decreases in size as the conically-shaped valve flattens out distally as the pressure of the fluid within the tip increases. The forces of the fluid flowing out of the opening of the restrictor and out of the microholes of the stem substantially balance thereby substantially eliminating both recoil and whipping of the catheter, thus enabling its position to remain exceptionally stable while the fluid is finely dispersed therefrom in a cloud-like form.